

# INVENTORY OF SEEDS AND PLANTS IMPORTED BY THE OFFICE OF FOREIGN SEED AND PLANT IN- TRODUCTION DURING THE PERIOD FROM APRIL 1 TO JUNE 30, 1917 (NO. 51; NOS. 44446 TO 44934).

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## INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT.

The period covered by this inventory is that immediately following the entry of America into the great World War, and it is interesting to record the fact that the work of plant introduction carried on by the office was continued without interruption and that during the three months—April, May, and June—489 new introductions were brought in, carefully inspected, held in the detention greenhouses when necessary, and later sent out to experimenters.

The foreign exploration work was more seriously affected, although it had already felt the effects of the war. Nevertheless, during this period Mr. Meyer continued his exploring work under difficulties along the Yangtze River between Hankow and Ichang and Mr. Wilson Popenoe made a study of the seedling avocado varieties of Guatemala, making excursions on horseback to Antigua, the Los Altos region, Amatitlan, Chimaltenango, Solola, and Totonicapam, where he obtained some of the most promising selections of his collection.

The avocado varieties listed in this inventory are the *Panchoy*, an early-ripening variety; the *Benik*, a midseason sort; the *Tumin*, an unusually productive sort with fruit resembling the *Trapp* in shape; the *Kekchi*, a small, very early sort with a long ripening season; the *Mayapan*, which Mr. Popenoe believes is one of the best of all; the *Cabnal*, a variety with a particularly nutty flavor; the *Cantel*, which has a very small seed; the *Pankay*, which he found at an altitude of 8,500 feet, which is more than 1,000 feet above the zone of citrus fruits; and the *Tertoh*, which produces fruits weighing 4 pounds. This collection of selected avocado seedlings was made with the greatest care. Not only has Mr. Popenoe placed on record in this office a description of the exact locality of each original tree from which he took bud wood, but he made a photograph of the tree itself, wherever it was possible, showing its habit of growth and productiveness; a photograph of the fruit, showing its shape and size and the